

C/015/018 Incoming



## United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
Utah State Office  
440 West 200 South, Suite 500  
Salt Lake City, UT 84101  
<http://www.blm.gov/ut/st/en.html>



IN REPLY REFER TO:  
UTU-1358  
(UT-3451)

NOV 09 2016

CERTIFIED MAIL – Return Receipt Requested  
91 7199 9991 7036 9152 4168

Brian M. Pentecost  
Manti-La sal National Forest  
599 West Price River Road  
Price, Utah 84501

Dear Mr. Pentecost:

Thank you for your letter dated September 8, 2016 regarding a stipulation for coal lease UTU-1358 due for readjustment of its terms and conditions effective August 1, 2017. The matter of Greater Sage Grouse (SG) is a valid stipulation and should be added to the lease.

However, the stipulation provided includes a seed mix to be used in reclamation efforts for the SG. Because the Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining (DOGM) is tasked with the approval and monitoring of mine permits, the seed mix would more appropriately be part of the mine permit for this lease (and other coal leases which will eventually be readjusted). Otherwise, DOGM will not have this matter within their appropriate jurisdiction and any necessary adjustments to the seed mix would require reopening and renegotiating the coal contract (lease) for each possible change in the seed mix or any other concerns regarding SG reclamation.

Also, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) recommends adding a reference to the lessee (highlighted) regarding SG responsibility:

For Federal Coal Lease UTU-1358:

In **lessee disturbed** General Greater Sage Grouse Habitat management areas (see attached map, Greater Sage Grouse Habitat) and sagebrush focal areas efforts shall be made to conserve, enhance, and restore the greater sage grouse and its habitat for long-term viability.

Please let us know if this recommendation is acceptable to the Forest Service or if it needs to be discussed further.

Again, thank you for your input to the coal lease readjustment process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Roger L. Bankert". The script is cursive and fluid.

Roger L. Bankert  
Chief, Branch of Minerals

Cc: Division of Oil, Gas, & Mining  
Attn: Dana Dean  
1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210  
P.O. Box 145801  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114

Forest Service  
Attn: Liane L. Mattson  
P.O. Box 1030  
Paonia, Colorado 81428

BLM: Price Field Office  
Attn: Steve Rigby